

On page 129, please delete the entire text and insert therefor:

--POLYNUCLEOTIDES ENCODING THROMBOPOIETIN, TRANSFORMED CELLS, AND METHODS OF PRODUCING THROMBOPOIETIN

Abstract of the Disclosure

b
Isolated polynucleotides encoding mammalian thrombopoietin are disclosed. Also disclosed are expression vectors comprising a transcription promoter, a DNA segment encoding mammalian thrombopoietin, and a transcription terminator; cultured cells into which have been introduced the disclosed expression vectors; and methods of producing thrombopoietin. The isolated polynucleotides encode a polypeptide comprising a region that is at least 80% identical to the region between amino acid number 45 and amino acid number 206 of SEQ ID NO:2 that stimulates MPL-dependent cell proliferation. The thrombopoietin encoded by the polynucleotides is useful for stimulating platelet production in a mammal, such as in the treatment of thrombocytopenia.--

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 10, 20, 24, and 33 as follows:

b²
10. (Twice amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding naturally occurring mammalian thrombopoietin, wherein the polynucleotide [comprises] encodes a polypeptide comprising a region that is at least 80% identical to the region between [nucleotide number 237 and nucleotide number 722 of SEQ ID NO:1] amino acid number 45 and amino acid number 206 of SEQ ID NO:2, and wherein said thrombopoietin stimulates MPL-dependent cell proliferation.

b³
20. (Twice amended) An expression vector comprising the following operably linked elements:
a transcription promoter;